INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

No. 1633 — Washington, D. C. — May 18, 1957

Schedule and Program of Meetings of Board of Directors, Administrative Council, and Committees

Tentative—Subject to Revision

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

9:30 a.m.—Meeting of Legislative Committee, Conference Room, N.C.A.

9:30 a.m.—Meeting of Reappraisal Committee, N.C.A.

12:30 p.m.—Luncheon Meeting of Canner-Grower Coordinating Committee

2 p.m.—Meeting of Convention Program Committee, N.C.A.

2 p.m.—Meeting of Consumer and Trade Relations Committee, Library, N.C.A.

2-4 p.m.—Open House at N.C.A. Headquarters for new members of the Board of Directors

4:30 p.m.—Premiere showing of new color-sound film, "The Story of John Porter," Presidential Room, Hotel Statler, followed by Reception in the Congressional Room, adjoining

- Welcome and Introductory Remarks: Carlos Campbell
- Showing of "The Story of John Porter"
- Remarks: Grant Snyder, adult advisor, National Junior Vegetable Growers Association
- Introduction of four N.J.V.G.A. officers and 1956 champion
- Remarks: John Porter, president, N.J.V.G.A.
- Reception, Congressional Room

THURSDAY, MAY 23

9 a.m.—Meeting of Legislative Committee, Caribar Room, Sheraton-Park Hotel

9:30 a.m.—Meeting of Administrative Council, Conference Room, N.C.A.

12:30 p.m.—Luncheon — Board of Directors, Administrative Council, State Secretaries and N.C.A. guests, Continental Room, Sheraton-Park Hotel

- Presiding: President A. Edward Brown
- Address: The Honorable John W. Bricker, Senator from Ohio
- Presentation of Plaque to Gary Marlin Bishop, winner of the 1956 Canning Crops Contest, by Senator Bricker

2 p.m.—Open Meeting of Board of Directors, Caribar Room, Sheraton-Park Hotel

- Presiding: President A. Edward Brown
- Roll Call of State Secretaries
- Report of Laboratory Organization, by Carlos Campbell
- Canner-Grower Program: (a) The problem, by P. K. Shoemaker, Canner-Grower Coordinating Committee; (b) A proposed program
- Report of Legislative Committee: John C. Hemingway, Chairman; R. B. Heiney, N.C.A. staff; H. Thomas Austern, N.C.A. Chief Counsel
- Servicing the Fish Canners: H. R. Robinson, Chairman, Fishery Products Committee; George E. Steele, Jr., Director, Fishery Products Division
- 1958 Convention: (a) arrangements; (b) program, by E. E. Burns, Chairman, Convention Program Committee
- Appointment of Nominating Committee for Election of Executive Committee

5 p.m.—Reception at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Campbell

FRIDAY, MAY 24

9 a.m.—Closed Meeting of Board of Directors, Caribar Room, Sheraton-Park Hotel

- Presiding: President A. Edward Brown
- Roll Call
- Resignations and Election of Substitutes
- Report of Nominating Committee: (a) Executive Committee; (b) to fill vacancies
- Report of Association Finances: (a) presentation of 1956 audit; (b) first 4 months of 1957 operations
- Recommendations of Finance Committee
- Recommendations of Reappraisal Committee
- Convention Plans: (a) 1959 location; (b) 1958 schedule of events
- Special Report on Internal Revenue Service Study of Depreciation
- Report of Executive Committee
- Other Business
- New Business
- Resignations of Substitutes and re-election of Members

Farm Experts See Controls On Basic Crops as Impetus To Output of Other Crops

The House on May 15 passed and sent to the Senate H.R. 7441, making appropriations for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the next fiscal year.

The House adopted without amendment the bill as recommended by its Appropriations Committee, providing $1,610,024,848 for the regular activities of the Department. This sum is $403,378,260 less than the funds available this year and is $272,556,860 under the total recommended in the President's budget.

Except for activities connected with the Soil Bank and soil and water conservation programs, the Appropriations Committee and the House have, in effect, cut the budget for regular activities back to the current level.

FARM POLICY

The report of the Appropriations Committee, filed under the name of Representative Whitten (Miss.), touched off a rebuttal from Secretary Benson with regard to statements on the farm program.

Representative Whitten, in charge of the subcommittee on USDA appropriations, said that despite expectations that reduced price supports and acreage reductions would reduce production, production increased steadily since 1952.

"Not only did the farmer increase his per acre production of basic commodities," the report states, "but acreage reductions for basic commodities made available more acres for non-basic commodities, increasing total production."

The report says, at another point:

"One of the more serious aspects of the reduction in acreage each year is that, as the farmer has increased his production per acre, he has made further cuts in his acreage for the next year under the formula contained in the present law, freeing more acreage for production of other farm crops. Further, current programs are encouraging the farmer to exploit his land, which runs counter to the long-

range soil conservation objectives of the federal government."

Secretary Benson appeared before the Senate Agriculture Committee May 15 and the House Agriculture Committee May 16 to comment on matters of long-range farm policy. At both of these hearings the Secretary stressed the need for new farm legislation, a point he had made initially in a letter to Senator Ellender (La.), Chairman of the Senate Committee, on May 2.

Secretary Benson told the Agriculture Committees:

"The basic question to be answered regarding any price support legislation is this: are the supports intended to stabilize and undergird the farm economy? Or are they intended to hold prices continually and substantially above competitive levels?

"If the purpose is permanent high-level price support, then inevitably decision-making must be taken out of the hands of farmers and placed in the hands of government. And government must demonstrate willingness and ability, greater than has hitherto been shown, to make decisions that are necessary, though unpopular, and to make them stick.

"The evidence is convincing that we should move in the direction of more freedom for our farmers to produce, coupled with less reliance on the establishment of price support levels by means of formulas.

"There are various ways in which this might be done.

"Authority for establishing support levels could be vested in the Executive Branch, with general guide-lines provided by the Congress, as is now the case for most farm products.

"This discretion could be within wide limits, as at present for the non-basic commodities like the feed grains.

"It could be within a range prescribed by law, as presently for a few designated non-basic commodities.

"Regardless of the range prescribed for establishing price supports, the present rigid formulas in price support legislation should be eliminated.

"There are more than 200 farm products for which we are authorized to provide price supports. For six of these, the basic commodities, programs are in effect to control production and to support prices according to a legal formula. Yet for these six commodities, surpluses are greater, costs are higher, infringements on farmers decisions are more extensive and farmer complaints are more vociferous than for all the other 200 commodities combined.

"As price supports move toward a more competitive level, acreage allotments could be increased. We would hope that in time they could be eliminated, crop by crop, as conditions warrant. This would have to be gradual, of course. The soil bank and the surplus disposal program would ease the adjustment; it would be well to begin moving away from controls while the soil bank and the surplus disposal program are operative."

Secretary Benson was asked by members of the House Agriculture Committee to submit his ideas in the form of proposed legislation.

USDA Appropriations

The House Committee commented, in part, as follows on some of the current USDA activities:

"Research Advisory Committees

"Recognizing the value of bringing to the Department the advice of outside organizations dealing with agriculture, members of the Committee have strongly supported the twenty-five research advisory committees established ten years ago. The Committee has felt that such a system would help to keep the research program of the Department on a sound and practical basis and has relied on such groups to provide the principal review of the many individual projects proposed in the budget each year.

"The Committee has been disappointed in the work of these groups in recent years. Instead of making a thorough and continuing review of existing research projects which might be improved or eliminated to make personnel available to meet new problems, the large increases proposed each year indicate that the time of these Committees is taken up largely with the review and approval of new projects of special interest for which additional funds are always asked. This has resulted in such large increases for research that substantial sums were not needed during the current year and have been diverted to other uses.

"The Committee urges that these advisory groups review their basic purpose and consider how to undertake new and important research projects without continually requesting additional appropriations. In view of the necessity of holding the research funds of the Department for the coming year at the 1957 level, such action becomes absolutely essential.

"In this connection, the Committee has noted the interim report recently released by the Commission on the Increased Industrial Use of Agricultural Products. The Committee is disappointed to note that the recommendations contained therein call for an increased level of federal expenditures of . . . 'not less than three times the amounts currently available;' . . . This is another example of proposing increases in federal appropriations in lieu of redirecting effort to meet new demands within existing amounts of funds and personnel. Most of the concrete proposals in this report, which appear as new, are really for expansion of existing work. Little, if any attention appears to have been given to what is already being done in these fields."

"Agricultural Marketing Service

"*School Lunch Program.*—The Committee recommends an appropriation of $100,000,000 for the coming fiscal year, a continuation of the program authorized for fiscal year 1957.

"Testimony presented to the Committee indicates continued increases in the number of school children affected by this program and the number of meals served each year. During fiscal year 1956 some 10½ million school children participated in this program and over 1.7 billion meals were served. During that same fiscal year total federal contributions, including Section 32 donations, amounted to $228.2 million, while state and local contributions, including payments by school children, totaled $519 million. Comparable estimates for the 1957 program are that total federal contributions will be $284.1 million and state and local contributions will be $562 million."

"Foreign Agricultural Service

"The Committee has also been informed that the agricultural attachés do not enjoy the same status as other attachés in some areas. The Committee deplores this situation and urges officials of the Department of Agriculture and the State Department to correct this condition. The agricultural interests of the United States cannot be represented properly if the agricultural attachés are not given equal support and status at each foreign post."

New Peach Puree Concentrates Developed by USDA Research

A continuous process for producing a peach puree concentrate and a frozen peach nectar concentrate has been developed through research at the USDA's Eastern Utilization Research and Development Division, Philadelphia, Pa.

In this process the volatile flavors that normally would be lost in processing the fruit are recovered, and the products have excellent natural fruit flavor. They also retain good color, due to rapid inactivation of browning enzymes early in processing. This research on peaches followed work on methods of preserving the flavor essences of strawberries, grapes, apples, and other fruits.

Ice cream manufacturers are especially interested in the peach puree concentrate. Because peach flavor is so delicate, it is difficult to make a

full-flavored ice cream using only the fresh or frozen fruit.

Nelson Eisenhardt and his co-workers of the Philadelphia laboratory reported on the new process at the annual meeting of the Institute of Food Technologists this week in Pittsburgh, Pa. The process is not yet in commercial use.

Peach concentrates are made by pureeing the peaches and inactivating the browning enzymes by a high-speed heat treatment. Next the juice and pulp are separated, and the pulp is held for later use. In a flavor-essence recovery unit the volatile flavors are recovered from the juice and, simultaneously, the juice is concentrated. Finally the pulp and essence are blended with the juice concentrate, and the product is homogenized. For best flavor and color retention, the fourfold beverage nectar concentrate and the sevenfold puree concentrate should be kept in frozen storage.

Two N.C.A. Scientific Papers Presented at IFT Meeting

Two scientific papers by members of the N.C.A. staff were presented at the 17th annual meeting of the Institute of Food Technologists this week in Pittsburgh.

One was an "Evaluation of Flavor Differences in Canned Foods Due to the Application of Pesticides to the Processing Crop" by Dr. C. H. Mahoney, Dr. H. L. Stier, and Dr. Edwin A. Crosby.

The other was a review of "The Program of the National Canners Association on Waste Disposal" by Robert A. Canham.

Flavor Differences

During 1950 and 1951 the canning industry encountered some instances of off-flavor in canned foods which were thought to be due to the application of pesticides to the canning crop. A conference was held in San Francisco in 1951 under the sponsorship of the N.C.A. to discuss this problem of the physiological effects of pesticides on the flavor of canned foods.

It was the consensus of that meeting that a cooperative and coordinated research program should be initiated by the California Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with the industry to determine the effects of applied chemicals on flavor changes. Subsequently, preliminary work in several states disclosed a need for more uniformity in making the flavor difference tests.

In 1953 canned food samples were examined in 10 cooperating laboratories and in 1954 in 11 laboratories. The collaborators used various scientific and statistical procedures to arrive at a single simplified procedure for making flavor difference evaluations.

The paper by Messrs. Mahoney, Stier and Crosby is in two parts, the first a review of the studies and the second containing the procedure.

Waste Disposal

The N.C.A. has been active during the last 30 years in the study and solution of the waste disposal problems of the canning industry. The approach to the waste disposal problem has changed during that time, and so have the requirements as outlined by the state regulatory authorities.

The review of the N.C.A. waste disposal program describes the various methods of treatment that have been or are being used, and discusses each of them with principal emphasis on their advantages and disadvantages. The paper also discusses new developments and considerations for future lines of research as related to canning industry waste disposal.

The following general classifications are described in the paper by Mr. Canham, who is sanitary engineer of the Washington Research Laboratory:

(1) Mechanical
  (a) Screening
(2) Chemical treatment
  (a) Chemical precipitation
(3) Biological treatment
  (a) Filtration
  (b) Aeration
  (c) Impounding lagoons
(4) Land methods of disposal
  (a) Impounding lagoons
  (b) Absorption beds
  (c) Ridge and furrow irrigation
  (d) Spray irrigation
(5) Discharge to municipal sewer systems.

Tour of N.C.A. Laboratory

Twenty-two members of the University of California School of Public Health in food microbiology and their instructor toured the N.C.A. Western Research Laboratory, Berkeley, Calif., May 14. After the tour a discussion of laboratory technics and procedures of interest to the students was conducted.

Many of these students will be expected to find employment in public health departments, with responsibilities involving the canning industry.

Publicity on Canning Crops Contest Widely Distributed

Press releases that point up the contribution of the canning industry to betterment of the grower's situation have recently been circulated under the aegis of the N.C.A. Consumer and Trade Relations Program.

One phase of canner-grower relations has been the effort on the part of the Association to encourage young people to raise fruits and vegetables and make horticulture a career. N.C.A. has done this during the past two years through its Farm Youth Program, undertaken as a support to and in cooperation with the National Junior Vegetable Growers Association.

The press releases circulated in April were designed to help N.J.V.G.A. recruit membership and contestants in the canning crops contest. Vocational agricultural teachers in 37 states received particulars of the opportunities and rules for the contest in a special release on April 25. Last year 25 states participated. The effort is to increase that number this year.

At the same time a press release informed 152 metropolitan newspapers (total circulation, 19,600,000) how the canning industry emphasizes and stresses the importance of quality in its canning crops and takes steps, like the Farm Youth Program and other operations, to bring this about.

Consumer Service Division

On a trip, April 29 to May 9, foods and home economics education leaders were brought up to date on information about canned foods by Moselle Holberg, Assistant Director of the N.C.A. Consumer Service Division in conferences and meetings. Miss Holberg worked in Pittsburgh, Akron, Cleveland, Toledo, Detroit, and Lansing.

The services of the N.C.A. and materials available were discussed and shown to the leaders. In addition, information was gathered from the leaders to aid in planning the releases, educational materials, and other activities of the Consumer Service Division.

Supervisors of home economics and school lunch, college and university staff in foods and nutrition and institutional management, business home economists, and publicity people in the newspaper, radio, and television fields were contacted.

Dates Set for Meetings On Tomato Juice Color

The color scoring system currently in use in the federal standards for grades of canned tomato juice has been the subject of a study in which the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service and a number of tomato juice canners have participated. This work was undertaken to compare the color evaluation of the AMS inspection service with that of the industry, and to obtain additional information on other instrumental methods of color measurement. Some of the results obtained were discussed at a luncheon meeting held during the February, 1957, N.C.A. convention in Chicago.

As a part of this program, arrangements have been made to hold three regional cuttings at which interested canners will have an opportunity to examine the samples that have been used in the study. At each meeting AMS representatives will distribute copies of the results of the study, and various proposals relating to grade standards for canned tomato juice will be discussed. The meetings have been scheduled as follows:

East: Conference Room 3046, South Building, USDA, Washington, D. C. at 10 a.m. on June 4.

Midwest: Research Laboratories of the Continental Can Company, Chicago, Ill., at 10 a.m. on June 11.

West: Research Laboratories of the N.C.A., Berkeley, Calif., at 10 a.m. on June 7.

In each case it is planned first to discuss the data that have been obtained in the study. Canners will then be able to examine duplicates of the samples that were used in the study. Another discussion period will follow the cutting.

Grades for Kadota Figs

Notice is given in the *Federal Register* of May 15 that the Agricultural Marketing Service of USDA proposes to revise U. S. standards for grades of canned Kadota figs.

The present standards have been in effect since November 15, 1945, and were amended June 15, 1955, to make changes in measurements for sirup.

The proposed revision would cover styles of whole, whole and split (broken), and split (broken) canned Kadota figs and would make provisions for "dietetic" packs.

Recommended drained weights would be changed slightly, but sirup measurements would remain unchanged.

Definitions for styles and sirup measurements used in the revision would be those established by Food and Drug standards for canned Kadota figs.

Minor changes also are proposed in the requirements for color, uniformity of size, and character and in the allowances for defects. These changes reflect the new classifications proposed for styles of canned Kadota figs.

Written views and comments on the proposed revision may be submitted by June 15 with F. L. Southerland, Chief, Processed Products Standardization and Inspection Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Div., Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Record Population Gain

The U. S. population increased as much in the seven years since 1950 as it did during the ten years from 1940 to 1950, according to the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce. The official April 1 estimate of the population is 170,510,000.

The population is increasing at a rate of 8,000 a day. In 1956 the gain totaled about 3 million, the biggest one-year increase in history. Both a continued high birth rate and some increase in immigration were factors in this population gain, it was reported.

Total U. S. population had risen from 131,820,000 on April 1, 1940, to 151,132,000 on April 1, 1950.

Gross National Product

Gross national product rose again in the opening months of 1957, continuing an advance begun in mid-1954. The $427 billion annual rate in the first quarter compares with $424 billion in the fourth quarter and $403½ billion in the first quarter of 1956, according to the Office of Business Economics of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

The increase over a year ago was 6 percent in value, with about a third of the rise representing a further advance in physical volume.

Personal consumption expenditures rose $4 billion to an annual rate of $275 billion. Outlays for nondurable goods and for services increased, reflecting higher demand for a wide variety of products. Spending for durable goods also was up.

The major change was in inventory purchasing. Inventory investment declined from a $4 billion annual rate of increase in the fourth quarter to a slight reduction in the first quarter of this year. Inventory movements differed widely from industry to industry; in general, the swing represented a substantial slowing of accumulation in durables manufacturing and a liquidation of trade stocks other than autos.

Government purchases were at an annual rate of $85 billion, up $3 billion from the fourth quarter of last year. The rise was in defense outlays and in state and local government expenditures.

Disposable personal income—income after personal taxes—was at a rate of over $295 billion in the first quarter. This was 5½ percent above the same quarter of last year in dollars and 2 percent in real purchasing power—income after allowance for the rise in consumer prices from a year ago.

Stocks of Canned Fruits on May 1 and Season Shipments

Reports on canners' stocks and shipments of canned apples, applesauce, and RSP cherries have been issued by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics, and detailed reports covering the May 1 stock and shipment situation have been mailed to all canners of these products.

	Carry-over month	Case basis	Total Supply 1955	Total Supply 1956	Canners' Stocks May 1 1956	Canners' Stocks May 1 1957	Season Shipments to May 1 1956	Season Shipments to May 1 1957
			(thousands of cases)					
Apples	Aug.	6/10	4,625	4,995	1,840	1,971	2,785	2,935
Applesauce	Aug.	actual	15,897	17,167	4,976	6,604	10,921	10,563
RSP cherries	July	actual	5,027	3,103	875	494	4,152	2,609

Personal Income in April

Personal income in April was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of $339½ billion, about $1 billion higher than in March and $18 billion above April of 1956, according to the Office of Business Economics, U. S. Department of Commerce.

A little over half of the April rise in income was attributable to continuing moderate uptrends in wages and salaries, dividends and interest, the OBE said. The remainder reflected higher government transfer payments, as many farm operators began drawing old-age benefits for the first time.

Payrolls were somewhat higher in April in manufacturing, mining, wholesale trade, and all other major industry groups except retail trade and construction.

Maine Sardine Packers Assn.

James Warren of the R. J. Peacock Canning Company, Eastport, was elected president of the Maine Sardine Packers Association recently at the group's annual meeting.

James Abernethy, Sunset Packing Co., West Pembroke, was reelected secretary-treasurer, and Richard E. Reed, Augusta, was reelected executive secretary.

'Three Squares' Showing

"The Three Squares," canning industry motion picture project in the N.C.A. Consumer and Trade Relations Program, was shown on May 10, to 93 senior students in the economic geography classes at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Senior High School. Arrangements for this showing were made by Richard W. Alexander, son of R. F. Alexander, Assistant Treasurer of the N.C.A.

QMC Requirements for Canned Blackberries

Tentative requirements for canned blackberries from the 1957 pack to meet the needs of the armed forces were announced May 15 by the Department of Defense.

Procurements will be made by the various Military Subsistence Market Centers of the Military Subsistence Supply Agency, with headquarters at 226 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

Item	Grade	Type	Can Size	Quantity (pounds)	Quantity (cases)
Blackberries	A (Fancy) or B (Choice)	Water Pack	24/No. 303	204,000	8,500
			6/No. 10	3,463,000	80,645

1956-57 Pack of Apple Juice

The 1956-57 pack of canned apple juice totaled 4,265,583 actual cases as compared with the 1955-56 pack of 3,507,894 cases, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

State	1955-56	1956-57
	(actual cases)	
Md., Pa., and Va.	621,089	1,114,633
Michigan	555,522	744,325
California	584,331	567,150
Other states	1,746,952	1,839,475
U. S. Total	3,507,894	4,265,583

1956 Pack of Sweet Potatoes

The 1956 pack of canned sweet potatoes totaled 4,426,949 actual cases as compared with the 1955 pack of 4,422,493 cases, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

Region	1955	1956
	(actual cases)	
Md., Va., and N. J.	1,746,230	2,055,711
La., Miss., and Ala.	1,783,069	1,772,724
Ark., Mo., and Okla.	533,136	322,627
Other states	360,058	275,887
U. S. Total	4,422,493	4,426,949

Other states include Calif., Fla., Ga., N. M., N. C., Ore., Puerto Rico, S. C., and Texas.

1956 Pack of White Potatoes

The 1956 pack of canned white potatoes totaled 3,345,742 actual cases as compared with the 1955 pack of 3,148,736 cases, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

Region	1955	1956
	(actual cases)	
East	1,254,874	1,352,776
West	1,893,862	1,992,966
U. S. Total	3,148,736	3,345,742

East includes Ala., Fla., Ga., Maine, Md., Mich., Miss., N. J., N. C., S. C., Tenn., and Va. West includes Ark., Calif., Colo., Ind., Minn., Mont., Okla., Ore., Texas, Utah, and Wis.

Shipments of Metal Cans

Shipments of metal cans during the first quarter of 1957 have been reported by the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

	Jan.-March 1956	Jan.-March 1957
	(short tons of steel)	
Fruit and vegetable (including juice)	200,081	202,085
Meat (including poultry)	43,814	37,310
Fish and sea food	17,336	20,882

USDA Defense Suggestions for Food Industry

USDA suggestions for assuring continued operation of commercial food facilities in the event of enemy attack are set forth in a new bulletin, *Defense Guides for Commercial Food Facilities* (Agriculture Information Bulletin No. 169).

The USDA bulletin covers such points as the microfilming and safe storage of special processes and patents, plant dispersal, recruitment of workers, fire protection, maintenance of communications, and protection against sabotage.

The N.C.A. is cooperating with USDA by mailing copies of the bulletin to members with this issue of the INFORMATION LETTER. The copies distributed in this way are among 50,000 which are being furnished to national trade associations for distribution to their members.

USDA points out that under any conditions that this country might face, continued food production is essential. "The commercial food industry realizes this," USDA stated. "Many firms already have taken steps to insure continuity of production under attack conditions, and to them the guidebook will be a convenient check list. The publication, however, will be of most value to the establishments that have not yet undertaken comprehensive defense planning."

Two USDA agencies are focal points for mobilization planning in the field of agriculture. They are the Food and Materials Requirements Division of the Commodity Stabilization Service and the Special Services Division of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

N.C.A. Offers Slides Of Statistical Charts

The N.C.A. Division of Statistics is able to furnish, for canners' use, a number of slides of color charts presenting statistical information about raw products and canned foods. The slides are 2 x 2" transparencies and may be projected on the ordinary viewer or projector.

A numbered list describing each of the slides is available from the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

Lima Beans for Processing

A reduction of 8 percent in the acreage of green lima beans for processing is in prospect for 1957, according to a report by the Crop Reporting Board of USDA.

The acreage indicated for freezing is only slightly less than that planted last year and the average acreage. However, the acreage planned for canning is down 17 percent from last year and is 28 percent below average.

Processors report that they intend to grow and contract 97,280 acres. This compares with 105,670 acres planted in 1956 and the 1946-55 average of 103,160 acres.

If May 1 intentions are carried out, all of the reduction from last year will occur in the Eastern and North Central states. In California, leading state in the production of this crop, and in Washington, more acreage than last year is expected.

The reduction in acreage for canning is a continuation of the trend of recent years, USDA points out.

State	10-year ave. 1946-55 (acres)	1956 (acres)	1957 Prospective (acres)	Percent change from 1956
N. Y.	3,330	2,800	2,200	−21
Pa.	4,000	3,900	3,200	−18
Ohio	870	700	600	−14
Mich.	2,860	1,700	1,300	−24
Wis.	6,340	6,800	5,400	−21
Del.	20,570	23,500	18,800	−20
Md.	4,850	3,800	2,500	−34
Va.	4,490	3,800	2,500	−34
Wash.	1,540	900	950	+6
Calif.	21,400	28,100	29,300	+4
Other states [1]	31,530	29,670	30,530	+3
U. S. Total..	103,160	105,670	97,280	−8
For canning and other processing.	[2] 41,460	36,100	30,030	−17
For freezing.	[2] 68,840	69,570	67,250	−3

[1] Ark., Colo., Idaho, Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kans., Minn., Mo., N. J., Okla., Ore., Tenn., and Utah.
[2] Four-year ave., 1952-55.

Deciduous Fruit Production

Prospects for production of deciduous fruits in 1957 were described by the Crop Reporting Board of USDA in a report on May 10, reflecting conditions on May 1.

Peaches—There have been no reports of frost losses in the main peach-growing areas of California. The blooming period was close to the normal time and bloom was heavy in all districts. Thinning was under way in some localities on May 1. The bearing acreages for both clingstones and freestones will show increases over 1956.

Apricots—The 1957 crop of apricots in California is estimated at 187,000 tons, 1,000 tons above last year but 8 percent below average. The bloom was uneven with some districts having a light set while others required considerable thinning.

Sweet cherries—The sweet cherry crop in California is forecast at 37,500 tons, 9 percent larger than in 1956 and 23 percent above average. The crop of Royal Annes is estimated at 15,000 tons compared with 15,700 tons in 1956. Other varieties are forecast at 22,500 tons compared with 18,600 tons last year. There was a heavy bloom this season and most areas are expected to have a good crop.

Plums and prunes—Production of California plums is forecast at 84,000 tons, 16 percent smaller than last year but 5 percent above average. There was a good bloom on all varieties, but the over-all crop is less than in 1956. Prunes showed a good bloom in most orchards.

Information Letter Schedule

Because of the annual spring meeting of the N.C.A. Board of Directors and Administrative Council, May 22-24, publication of the next issue of the INFORMATION LETTER will be delayed until May 29.

In that issue will be a detailed account of the meetings.

Canned Meat Supply and Distribution, 1937-56

The following table, summarizing the supply and distribution of canned meats during the last 20 years, was published by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service in its May issue of *The Livestock and Meat Situation:*

Year	Federally inspected production [1]	Imports: Canned beef [2]	Imports: Canned pork [3]	Beginning stocks [4]	Commercial exports and shipments [5]	Ending stocks [4]	Purchases: USDA [6]	Purchases: Military [7]	Apparent civilian disappearance [8]: Total	Apparent civilian disappearance [8]: Per capita
	(millions of pounds)									
1937...	308	88	43	..	22	..	.....	.....	417	3.2
1938...	304	79	41	..	23	..	.....	.....	401	3.1
1939....	407	86	37	..	24	..	.....	.....	506	3.9
1940...	530	61	1	..	20	..	.....	.....	572	4.3
1941...	884	104	1	..	27	..	188	76	698	5.3
1942...	1,927	92	(9)	..	19	..	876	920	204	1.6
1943...	2,051	106	2	..	10	..	1,025	680	444	3.4
1944...	1,931	88	(9)	..	13	..	449	1,121	436	3.4
1945...	1,926	55	(9)	18	14	18	360	971	636	4.9
1946...	1,343	3	(9)	18	55	23	157	19	1,110	8.0
1947...	1,099	29	(9)	23	64	27	.....	31	1,029	7.2
1948...	1,096	129	(9)	27	35	28	.....	53	1,136	7.8
1949...	1,040	72	2	28	26	27	.....	23	1,066	7.2
1950...	1,231	125	19	27	20	27	.....	50	1,305	8.7
1951...	1,441	154	31	27	21	35	.....	246	1,351	8.9
1952...	1,351	120	54	35	19	37	.....	58	1,446	9.4
1953...	1,437	100	97	37	[10] 29	34	.....	50	[11] 1,558	[11] 10.0
1954...	1,441	85	113	34	[10] 32	34	.....	34	1,553	9.8
1955...	1,508	87	107	54	22	37	.....	38	[11] 1,659	[11] 10.2
1956...	1,716	73	97	37	28	51	.....	18	[11] 1,826	[11] 11.0

[1] Beef, pork, sausage, all other, excluding soup. Data from Meat Inspection Branch, ARS. [2] Data from U. S. Department of Commerce. [3] Federally inspected for entry. Data from Meat Inspection Branch, ARS. [4] Refrigerated stocks only. [5] Includes shipments to Territories. Excludes shipments under lend-lease and UNRRA (1941-46) and the Civilian Supply Programs of the Department of the Army in foreign countries (1953-56). [6] Canned meats and meat food products officially graded for CCC. Does not include USDA purchases in 1953-56. [7] From Statistical Yearbook of the QMC and other military records. [8] Calculated from federally inspected supplies and distribution as shown. Federally inspected production is the largest part of total U. S. production of canned meats. Per capita based on Census estimates of civilian population unadjusted for underenumeration. [9] Less than 500,000 pounds. [10] Includes small quantities of canned beef and gravy procured by USDA and shipped abroad by CARE. [11] Includes canned meat bought by USDA for school lunches and eligible institutions.

Forthcoming Meetings

May 23-24—National Canners Association, Spring Meeting of Board of Directors, Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, D. C.

June 2-3—Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Spring Meeting, Park Place Hotel, Traverse City

June 3-7—42d National Conference of Weights and Measures, Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, D. C.

June 7—Tidewater Canners Association of Virginia, Inc., Annual Meeting, Indian Creek Yacht & Country Club, Byrdton (near Kilmarnock)

June 9-13—National Association of Retail Grocers, 58th Annual Convention, Navy Pier, Chicago

June 12—National Red Cherry Institute, Spring Meeting, Leathem Smith Lodge, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

June 17-19—Maine Canners Association, Spring Meeting, Colony Hotel, Kennebunkport

July 18-19—National Kraut Packers Association, 50th Annual Convention, Catawba Cliffs Beach Club, Port Clinton, Ohio

June 26-29—Processed Apples Institute, Inc., 6th Annual Meeting, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

July 22-24—National Macaroni Manufacturers Association, 53rd Annual Convention, Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Mich.

Aug. 5-7—International Apple Association, Inc., 63d Annual Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio

Oct. 10-12—Florida Canners Association, 26th Annual Meeting, Americana Hotel, Bal Harbour

Oct. 20-23—National Association of Food Chains, 24th Annual Meeting, Sheraton Park and Shoreham Hotels, Washington, D. C.

Oct. 28-31—National Industrial Packaging & Handling Exposition of 1957, Convention Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

Nov. 4-6—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines

Nov. 7—Illinois Canners Association, Fall Meeting, LaSalle Hotel, Chicago

Nov. 11-12—Wisconsin Canners Association, 53d Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee

Nov. 20-22—Indiana Canners Association, Fall Meeting, French Lick-Sheraton Hotel, French Lick

Nov. 21-22—Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Fall Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids

Nov. 24-25—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 43rd Annual Convention, Yorktowne Hotel, York

Dec. 9-10—Ohio Canners Association, 50th Annual Convention, Neil House, Columbus

Dec. 14—National Food Sales Conference, National Food Brokers Association, The Conrad Hilton, Chicago

Jan. 6-8—Northwest Canners and Freezers Association, Annual Convention

Jan. 9-10—Canners League of California, 35th Annual Fruit and Vegetable Sample Cuttings, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco

January—National Canners Association and Canning Machinery and Supplies Association, 51st Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N. J.

Jan. 27-29—Canadian Food Processors Association, Annual Convention, Seigniory Club, Montebello, P. Q.

March 2-5—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Convention, The Conrad Hilton, Chicago

March 24-25—Canners League of California, 54th Annual Meeting, Santa Barbara Biltmore, Santa Barbara

FTC Upholds Decision in Florida Citrus Mutual Case

The Federal Trade Commission has upheld an initial decision of a Hearing Examiner to the effect that the Florida Citrus Mutual may continue a supply adjustment program involving price guides but which forbids resumption of attempts to control the prices of interstate shipments of citrus fruit after the Mutual's grower members have sold it to handlers and processors. The Florida Citrus Mutual is a marketing association comprising some 7,000 citrus fruit growers that requires its grower members to execute uniform marketing contracts agreeing to market their entire citrus fruit crop through handlers and processors who in turn have contracts with the Mutual.

A complaint had originally been issued by the Federal Trade Commission against the Mutual in December, 1952. In June, 1953, an initial decision was filed dismissing the complaint for lack of public interest. On appeal this first decision was set aside and thereafter hearings were held for the taking of evidence. The Examiner found that from 1949 through May, 1952, the Mutual controlled floor prices below which fresh fruit shippers and processors could not sell to the trade. He also found that subsequent to 1952 the Mutual had instituted a price guide information program under which daily and weekly marketing bulletins were published containing summaries and averages of prices obtained by handlers, but which required no adherence to the program or reports of the extent to which it was followed.

An initial decision of the Hearing Examiner was issued in July, 1955, in which the Examiner found that through the operation of the various contracts with growers and handlers the Mutual had, up until May, 1952, been able to secure the cooperation of handlers in establishing and maintaining the prices at which the handlers resold citrus fruit and citrus fruit products but that the price guide program after that date did not result in price-fixing.

The Mutual appealed from this decision of the Hearing Examiner on the grounds that its activities came within the scope of the Capper-Volstead Act which provides limited immunity to agricultural cooperatives under the antitrust laws. The Commission lawyers prosecuting the complaint filed a cross appeal against those portions of the initial decision which upheld the price guide and supply adjustment program initiated in 1952.

The Commission upheld the decision of the Hearing Examiner holding that the immunities of agricultural cooperatives under the Capper-Volstead Act apply only to the prices growers receive for their crops and do not extend to any attempt to control the prices received by the processors to whom they sell. Inasmuch as the price guide information and supply adjustment program merely informed the trade as to economic and market conditions and recommended a course of conduct unaccompanied by concerted activity toward fixing and maintaining prices which handlers and processors receive, the Commission held that this activity instituted by the Mutual in 1952 was not in contravention of the antitrust laws.

The decision points up once again that the limited immunities under the antitrust laws afforded to agricultural cooperatives in fixing the prices that growers selling through the cooperative will get for their crops does not extend to any agreement as to the prices that processors will receive for the processed product.

Good Housekeeping

The May issue of *Good Housekeeping* magazine features a page entitled "Sizes of Cans and Jars."

"For marketing convenience, the canned foods industry has standardized the sizes and labels of many of its containers," says the opening statement. A chart follows giving can and jar sizes, approximate net weight or volume, cup contents and chief uses for each size.

This note concludes the article:

"These containers are not used for most meats, poultry, fish and seafood. Such items are sold in a variety of sizes, according to net weight, which is given on the label. Strained and homogenized foods and chopped junior foods come in small jars and cans, suitable for the smaller servings used. The weight is given on the label."

Also featured in the food section is an article called "Five Ways We've Served Peaches." The recipes given are for barbecued ribs, peach-cranberry ring, gingered peaches, and two desserts. Each recipe uses canned peach halves or slices. Catsup appears in one recipe.

Status of Legislation

Agricultural trade development—S. 1314 (Ellender of La.), to raise Title I authorizations from $3 billion to $4 billion and extend P. L. 480 to June 30, 1958, was passed by the Senate April 1. H. R. 6974 (Cooley of N.C.) was reported by House Agriculture Committee May 9.

Alaska statehood—H. R. 50 (Bartlett), to provide statehood for Alaska, has been considered by the House Interior Subcommittee on Territories in executive session at various times since April 10, with no final action.

Antimerger legislation—H. R. 2143 (Celler of N. Y.), to require prior notification of corporate mergers, was approved, with amendments, by a House Judiciary Subcommittee April 4 and has been passed over by full Committee several times. S. 198 (O'Mahoney of Wyo.) is pending before Senate Antimonopoly Subcommittee.

Defense procurement—S. 1537 (McClellan of Ark. and McCarthy of Wis.) and a number of companion bills in the House, to create a "Supply and Service Administration" in the Department of Defense for purchase and distribution of common supply items, in line with Hoover Commission recommendations, have been introduced and referred to Armed Services Committees, which are awaiting comments from the Department.

FDA chemical additives—H. R. 6747 (Harris of Ark.) and S. 1895 (Hill of Ala.), the Administration-sponsored bill, would regulate the use of chemical additives in foods. No action scheduled.

Fishermen's Protective Act—Bills to broaden protection of fishermen on the high seas were the subject of a hearing by a House Merchant Marine Subcommittee April 17.

Government contracts—H. R. 722, to amend the Robinson-Patman Act so as to make sales to nonprofit institutions for resale, subject to the Act, will be the subject of hearings by House Judiciary Committee after it receives statements from government agencies concerned.

ICC agricultural exemption—S. 1689 (Magnuson of Wash.) and H. R. 5823 (Harris of Ark.), to amend the agricultural exemption in sec. 203 (b)(6) of the Interstate Commerce Act, have been introduced.

ICC private carrier definition—S. 1677 (Magnuson of Wash.) and H.R. 5825 (Harris of Ark.), to amend the definition of a private motor carrier, as recommended by the ICC, was the subject of hearings by the Senate Surface Transportation Subcommittee May 6-10.

ICC private carrier registration—S. 1490 (Magnuson of Wash.) and H. R. 5664 (Harris of Ark.), to require private motor carriers to register with the ICC annually, was approved by the Senate Surface Transportation Subcommittee April 12 but was passed over by the full Senate Commerce Committee at its regular meetings April 15 and again on May 8.

Marketing orders, cranberries—S. 1680 (10 Senators from 5 cranberry producing states) and other bills to amend the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act so as to authorize marketing orders for cranberries for canning, were the subject of hearings by a Senate Agriculture Subcommittee April 20. N.C.A. opposes.

Packers and Stockyards Act—S. 1356 (O'Mahoney of Wyo.), to transfer antitrust jurisdiction over meat packing operations from USDA to FTC, were the subject of hearings by the Senate Judiciary Antitrust Subcommittee May 1-10.

Potato marketing and labeling—A number of bills to prohibit the sale of potatoes of a lower grade than U. S. No. 2, under certain conditions, were the subject of hearings by the House Agriculture Committee April 15-16 and will be the subject of hearings by the Senate Agriculture Committee May 21-22. N.C.A. will testify May 22. N.C.A. opposes application to canning.

Poultry inspection—S. 1747 (Aiken of Vt.), providing for compulsory USDA inspection of poultry products, was passed by the Senate April 8. H. R. 6814 was approved by House Agriculture Committee May 3.

Robinson-Patman Act—S. 11 (Kefauver of Tenn.) and H. R. 11 (Patman of Tex.), to restrict the good faith defense against a charge of price discrimination, was the subject of hearings by the Senate Antitrust Subcommittee March 12-20 and March 26-April 5.

Sockeye Salmon Fishery Act—S. 1806, to amend the Sockeye Salmon Fishery Act of 1947 so as to extend regulatory authority of the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission to include pink salmon, was reported by Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, with amendments, May 13.

Wage-Hour—S. 1853 (Kennedy), which includes proposal to eliminate overtime fishery exemption, was approved, without recommendation, by Senate Labor Subcommittee May 7.

Waste disposal—H. R. 1082 (Byrnes of Wis.), H. R. 2463 (Lipscomb of Calif.), and H. R. 4134 (Simpson of Pa.), to allow rapid amortization of waste disposal facilities and treatment works, have been introduced. N.C.A. supports the proposal, which is before House Ways and Means Committee.

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